Dear Students,

Due to the increase in the prevalence of COVID-19 in the state and nation, there will be a few modifications in campus operations beginning on Monday, November 23, as we keep your safety top of mind. These changes are aimed at protecting the health of USJ students, faculty, and staff while supporting students’ continued academic progress and success.

1. As of Monday, November 23, the following modifications for classes will be implemented for the remainder of the semester:
   a. Undergraduate commuting students are encouraged to participate remotely in lecture and discussion classes. Clinical, laboratory, and studio classes may require in-person participation; if you aren’t certain, please check with your professor. Students may continue to come to campus for activities including athletics and student employment, or to access Wi-Fi and other campus services. Additional virtual activities and services are available to meet the needs of commuting students.
   b. Graduate classes – except for laboratory or clinical classes and classes in the School of Pharmacy and Physician Assistant Studies – will be offered remotely. Students should check with their professors to determine whether their classes have switched to remote participation only. Graduate Assistants may continue to work on campus.
   c. Residential students should continue to attend classes in-person or remotely.
   d. All students should continue to check the USJ Fall 2020 Reopen webpage for updates.

2. COVID-19 test requirements for return to campus after Thanksgiving:
   Students who leave Connecticut for more than 24 hours will have to comply with the stipulations in the Connecticut Travel Advisory site upon their return. The FAQs (found below the list of Travel Advisory states on the website) contain information about how a negative COVID-19 test can exempt a traveler from the self-quarantine requirement. USJ will impose no additional test or quarantine requirements for students who return to campus from within Connecticut, and will provide quarantine space for residential students who traveled out of Connecticut in order to comply with the state stipulations. As noted below, residential students may request to remain in their on-campus housing over the Thanksgiving break to avoid travel and possible quarantine.

3. The Residence Hall schedule is as follows:
   - November 24: Residence Halls close at 6 p.m. for students who do not have Tuesday evening classes. Contact Residential Life if there is a conflict with your class ending later than 6 p.m. Students who wish to remain in housing throughout Thanksgiving break should contact the Office of Residence Life at housing@usj.edu.
   - November 29: Residence Halls re-open at 2 p.m.
   - December 19: Residence Halls close at 6 p.m. Resident students with other departure requests should contact the Office of Residence Life.
4. **COVID-19 surveillance testing of residential students** will continue to be administered on Mondays and Tuesdays. Residential students who plan to leave campus for the holiday and would like to be part of the surveillance testing that will be conducted on November 16 and 17 should contact Student Health Services at healthservices@usj.edu. Additional testing will be conducted on November 23 and 24 but results are usually not received for 24 to 48 hours except for symptomatic students. Residential students who return will be tested on November 30 and December 1.

5. **Campus offices** will continue to offer in-person or remote service during regular business hours.

6. **Mass** will continue to be offered on Sunday evenings at 7 p.m. in the Connor Chapel of Our Lady including on November 29, December 6, and December 13.

7. **The O'Connell Center** will be closed from Wednesday, November 25, through Sunday, November 29, and reopen for students, faculty, and staff after Thanksgiving.

8. **The Dining Hall** will be open through dinner on November 24, and the Jay’s Nest will be open until 3:30 p.m. that day. A welcome back dinner will be served in the Dining Hall on Sunday, November 29.

9. **The Pope Pius XII Library** will offer a quiet place for study; click here for their schedule.

10. **Spring 2021 Registration Dates**
    
    **November 2020**
    - Monday, 16: Graduate students and Honors students
    - Tuesday, 17: Seniors, part-time adult students, and Second Degree student
    - Wednesday, 18: Juniors
    - Thursday, 19: Sophomores
    - Friday, 20: Current First Years
    
    **December 2020**
    - Monday, 7: Non-Matriculated students

The safety and well-being of our community is of vital importance, especially as travel increases around the holidays. I encourage all of you to continue to wear masks, wash your hands, and maintain social distance while you are on break. You can set a good example and keep your families safe by continuing the important precautions that we have used on campus.

As you look forward to the Thanksgiving break, I wish you all a peaceful holiday.

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